

May 29, 2007

The Honorable Michael Mauro  
Secretary of State  
State Capitol Building  
L O C A L

Dear Mr. Secretary:

I hereby transmit Senate File 588, an Act relating to the funding of, the operation of, and appropriation of moneys to the college student aid commission, the department for the blind, the department of education, and the state board of regents, providing for related matters concerning the Iowa learning technology commission, providing for a related matter concerning participation in an instructional support program by school districts, and providing effective dates. Senate File 588 is approved on this date, with the exceptions noted below, which I hereby disapprove.

I am unable to approve the item designated as Section 5 in its entirety. Iowa Code 261.20 states that the moneys in the Scholarship and Grant Reserve Fund shall only be used to alleviate a current fiscal year shortfall in appropriations for scholarship or tuition grant programs that have the same nature as the programs for which the moneys were originally appropriated. There is not a state student-aid program that serves barber schools and schools of cosmetology arts. Therefore, an allocation from the reserve fund for this purpose does not meet the requirements as defined in Iowa Code 261.20.

I am unable to approve the item designated as Section 15 in its entirety. This provision requires the director of a department or state agency included in Senate File 588 to examine employee telecommuting options, develop telecommuter employment policies, and implement plans designed to increase the number of telecommuting employees. Many departments and agencies maintain employee telecommuting policies currently. These policies and procedures have been in place for several years and are well established. The designated language in Section 15 directing a department or state agency to conduct assessments of its telecommuting policy is duplicative and unnecessary and introduces a legislatively mandated management process into what is appropriately an executive branch decision. I will direct the Department of Administrative Services and the Department of Management to review the current state government telecommuting policy and make recommendations for any improvements as part of our overall executive branch strategic planning process.

For the above reasons, I respectfully disapprove of the designated items in accordance with Article III, Section 16 of the Constitution of the State of Iowa. All other items in Senate File 588 are hereby approved this date.

Sincerely,

Chester J. Culver  
Governor

CJC:rcg